

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 414

By Mumpower

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Mr. Jack C. Smith
upon 50 successful years in the grocery
business.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who, in their years of work, have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Jack Smith is one such estimable person who has served with probity for fifty years in the grocery business; and

WHEREAS, in 1955, Jack Smith, with the help of his cousin, uncle, and father, constructed and began operation of his first Piggly Wiggly supermarket; fifty years later, Mr. Smith's grocery store enterprise has grown to encompass 85 retail grocery outlets, of which 11 are located in Kentucky, 21 in Virginia, and 53 in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Jack Smith formed K-VA-T Food Stores, Inc., in 1984, after he acquired Humphrey's Grocery in East Tennessee, Glenn's Piggly Wiggly in Virginia, and the White Stores, also in East Tennessee; as the Chairman of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer of K-VA-T Food Stores, Inc., Mr. Smith heads the largest independent retail food chain in the Tri-State area and employs almost 9,000 associates; and

WHEREAS, actively involved in his community, Mr. Smith sponsors a "Race Night Series" with the proceeds earmarked to benefit such charities as the Ronald McDonald House in Johnson City, D.A.R.E. programs in the Tri-Cities, Second Harvest Food Bank in Kingsport, East Tennessee Children's Hospital, Empty Stocking Fund in Knoxville, and the Bristol War Memorial; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith has served in numerous leadership positions with various civic organizations and trade associations at the local, state, and national levels; among the distinguished credentials he holds, in both the present and the past are: President of Grundy Rotary Club, President of the Grundy Business and Professional Association, President of the Virginia Food Dealers Association, and President of the National Piggly Wiggly Operators Association; and

WHEREAS, his professional and civic endeavors aside, Jack Smith has always maintained the highest family values; the proud father of Stephanie David, Sharon Hembree, and Steve Smith, and six grandchildren, Mr. Smith enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Judy, for many years until her untimely death; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jack Smith exemplifies the spirit and commitment that are the embodiment of a true Tennessean, and he should be duly recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Mr. Jack C. Smith upon his 50 successful years in the grocery business, thank him for his civic involvement and dedication to improving the lives of his fellow citizens, and wish him further success in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.